

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim to foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d), and for confirming that the certified copy of the priority document has been received at the Patent Office. Further, Applicant thanks the Examiner for initialing the reference on the Form PTO-1449 filed October 16, 2000, thus indicating that the reference has been considered.

Specification:

Applicant notes the Examiner's comments regarding both the Title and Specification, and has amended the title as shown previously, and has amended the specification as shown in the attached Appendix. Applicant submits that these amendments adequately address the Examiner's concerns and hereby requests the Examiner with the objection to the title and the specification.

Drawings:

The Examiner has objected to the drawings under MPEP § 608.02(g) and under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5). Applicant respectfully submits herewith a Request for Approval of Proposed Drawing Corrections, where Figures 6 and 7 are now identified as --Prior Art--, and the reference number indicated by the Examiner have been deleted from the Figures.

Claim Rejections:

Claims 1-8 are all of the claims pending in the application, and currently all of the claims stand rejected.

35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph Rejection - Claims 1 and 5-6:

Claims 1 and 5-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph as being indefinite. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

With regard to claim 1, the Examiner asserts that this claim is indefinite because the parameters of the "predetermined value" at the input terminal are undefined. However, Applicant respectfully submits that in the context of the specification and the claim, one of ordinary skill would understand that the predetermined value would be a predetermined "voltage" value. One of ordinary skill in the art would know and understand what falls outside of and within the scope of the claim. It is clear from the claim language that the "predetermined value" is a voltage value.

With regard to claims 5 and 6, the Examiner asserts that it is unclear as to what is meant by "one phase". Applicant again submits that one of ordinary skill in the art would understand that a vehicle generator is by its very nature is a multi-phase dynamo, and thus the phrase "one phase" refers to one of the phases used. The claims as they are written are sufficient for one of ordinary skill in the art to understand that "one phase" of a multi-phase dynamo is being referred to.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 5-6 are clear and definite to one of ordinary skill in the art when read in light of the specification, and knowledge of one of ordinary skill, and hereby requests the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph of claims 1 and 5-6 as set forth above.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejection - Claims 1-5:

Claims 1-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Publication No. JP 2-36734 to Maruyama et al. In view of the following discussion, Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Maruyama discloses a voltage controller for a vehicle generator having a leak compensation resistor 143 disposed between an L-terminal for inputting to a control device and a transistor 14. However, the transistor 14 is provided for preventing a malfunction when a leak current flows into the L-terminal (preventing a control device from starting an operation erroneously by the flowing of a leak current in the case where an ignition switch is in the off position). Thus, the transistor 14 does not drive a light emitting element (i.e. lamp). *function*

Further, in Maruyama, it is disclosed that the charge lamp 4 is turned on through a transistor 152, and it is the transistor 152 which drives the light emitting element (lamp). Maruyama does not disclose using a resistor for limiting a current between the transistor 152 and the input terminal (L). Therefore, Maruyama fails to disclose the present invention as recited in claim 1. *function*

In view of the foregoing discussion, Applicant respectfully submits that Maruyama fails to disclose each and every aspect of the present invention as recited in claims 1, 2 and 4, and hereby requests the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of these claims. Further, as claim 3 depends on claim 2 and claim 5 depends on claim 4, Applicant submits that these claims are also allowable, at least by reason of their dependency.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/688,350

Our Ref.: Q61020
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35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejection - Claims 6-8:

Claims 6-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Maruyama reference in view of the ordinary skill in the art. In view of the following comments, Applicants respectfully traverses the above rejection.

Since claims 6-8 depend on claims 1, 2 and 4, respectively, and because the ordinary skill of the art fails to cure the deficient teachings of Maruyama, with regard to the independent claims, Applicants submits that claims 6-8 are also allowable, at least by reason of their dependency.

Conclusion:

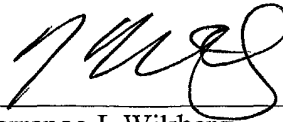
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE TITLE:

The original title has been deleted and been replaced.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification is changed as follows:

Page 15, please correct the second full paragraph, with the following corrections:

When the vehicle generator 2 starts the electric power generation operation, like the first embodiment, since the output of a comparator 109 is changed from a low level to a high level, a transistor is ~~tuned~~turned on, so that a transistor 133 is turned off. Thus, since the transistor 144 is also turned off, the current having been supplied to the base electrode of the transistor 122 is cut off, whereby the light emitting diode 4 is turned off.